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ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE

Provincial Operations Intelligence Bureau

SITUATION REPORT

DATE: 2022-01-23 (PM)

FILE NAME: Project HENDON

Report#: 019-2022

Event: Freedom Convoy/Bearhug 2.0

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INFORMATION

The information in this report is current to 2022-01-23 at 1430 hours.

- Open source research has social media posts claiming that the Liberal Party is attempting to have GoFundMe cancel the fundraiser supporting the Freedom Convoy and attempting to label the convoy as violent. A social media video has also been identified that echoes this message. The author notes that the Convoy will be peaceful. Another social media post encourages using the funds raised to buy fuel before the Prime Minister blocks it.
- An organizer has posted a message on the Freedom Convoy Telegram channel explaining that she had not provided all of the information to GoFundMe for them to release funds raised and that she would be correcting the oversight. The post also noted that a process for e-transferring funds to a bank account to facilitate ongoing donations (financeconvoy2022@protonmail.com).
- A post on the RISE UP DURHAM website depicts an image of a line of vehicles and people holding signs with a caption that notes that Ottawa will be "wild".
- Information [REDACTED] indicates that convoy organizers are cooperating and have developed a thorough and well-organized plan for conducting the event safely.
- The GoFundMe account supporting the Freedom Convoy has raised just over \$2.4 million (2022-01-23 1412 hours).
- A separate fundraiser ("ADOPT A TRUCKER") on the crowdfunding site "GiveSendGo.com" has raised \$14,083 (2022-01-23 1419 hours).
- A Facebook Event page for the Freedom Convoy event at Parliament Hill on 2022-01-29 indicates that 536 individuals are "Going" and 1300 are "Interested" (2022-01-23 1414 hours).

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ASSESSMENT

The available information regarding organization of the Freedom Convoy tends to support online statements by organizers that they wish the event to be safe and lawful. However, online messages and videos have been identified in which supporters of the Freedom Convoy express anger towards elected officials, mainly directed at Prime Minister TRUDEAU. It is possible that local political figures and, possibly, health officials in Ottawa could also be targeted. The available information is insufficient to support this hypothesis at this time.

At least one part of the convoy is scheduled to arrive in Ottawa on 2022-01-28. The intent of these convoy participants and the nature of any potential activities in Ottawa during the time frame from their arrival, likely in the morning of 2022-01-28, until noon on 2022-01-29 are unknown and represent a serious intelligence gap.

We assess that the commercial truck drivers participating in the Freedom Convoy are likely to be generally supportive of holding a lawful protest. However, convoy supporters may include individuals representing ideological movements who may view the protest as an opportunity to advance their own causes or beliefs. Some of these individuals may engage in activities that are not sanctioned or supported by convoy organizers in order to achieve their own objectives. The post on the RISE UP DURHAM website referencing Ottawa being “wild”, which echoes the language used by former US President Donald TRUMP prior to the 2021 attack on the US Capitol, tends to support this hypothesis. If accurate, then this assessment could indicate the possibility for conflict between a larger group comprising commercial truck drivers and a smaller group of ideologically-driven opportunists.

The move of some fundraising from the GoFundMe to electronic transfer will reduce our ability to monitor the ongoing fundraising for the convoy. It is likely that donations to the GoFundMe will slow and the amount shown on the website for total donations will stabilise. If so, this should not be interpreted as a slowdown in actual donations, but may reflect the change in the platform for donations.

TACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS

- **Part of the convoy is scheduled to arrive in Ottawa on 2022-01-28. Based on a stated departure time of 0830 hours from Kingston, this group may arrive as early as mid-morning.**
- Drivers may overnight in their trucks at Ontario truck stops along the way.
- Organizers in Ottawa are referred to as the “War Room”.
- Port-a-potties, fencing, and security have been arranged for Ottawa.
- National organizer from Alberta will be travelling with a command post, media and security detail.
- One organizer has claimed that 1 million individuals and 10,000 trucks will attend Ottawa.

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INTELLIGENCE GAPS (COLLECTION REQUIREMENTS)

- **Participant numbers - online indicators are unreliable;**
- Events possibly scheduled at Parliament Hill on 2022-01-30;
- Potential for some participants to bring weapons or be armed;
- Location of lodging for participants in Sault Ste. Marie (2022-01-27);
- Nature and location of evening event in Kingston (2022-01-27);
- Nature of activities in Ottawa by advance convoy participants (2022-01-28 - 2022-01-29);
- Nature and location(s) of "recon mission" in Ottawa by advance convoy participants;
- Date and location of delivery of port-a-potties and security fencing; location of installation of same;
- Lodging and meals in Ottawa if participants remain for a prolonged period of time;
- Plans for any further action should demands not be met;
- Plans for departing Ottawa.

EVENT SCHEDULE

Updated information is in green font.

2022-01-23

- **Local Convoys:** Convoys in support of the Freedom Convoy occurred today around the province mostly without incident. In Windsor-Essex, the convoy at times drove more slowly than they were supposed to and at one point occupied all lanes of the highway.
- **Kapuskasing: Freedom Convoy Solidarity Demonstration** – Kapuskasing Train Station (1200-1500 hours) in support of truck drivers. Participants attending in vehicles: organizers indicate plans to block one lane of traffic on the road in front of the train station and are expecting supporters from Cochrane, Timmins and Hearst. Number of participants unknown.
- **Muskoka – Huntsville:** Freedom Convoy Slow Roll – Huntsville Place Mall (1200 hours) to Gravenhurst and back
- **Belleville: Freedom Convoy Solidarity Slow Roll**, 10 Acres Truck Stop on Wallbridge (1100-1300 hours).
 - Route start and finish are same location - route as follows:
 - South on Wallbridge-Loyalist Road,
 - East on Hwy 2 (Dundas),
 - North onto Pinnacle Street and onto North Front Street (by 1200 hours),
 - West onto Bell Blvd return to the 10 Acres Truck Stop.
 - At least one confirmed participant (organizer)
 - Travel at speeds 10 and 15km/hr
 - Organizer has contacted the Belleville Police Service.

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- The convoy will be in OPP jurisdiction travelling down Wallbridge Loyalist Road and then a portion of the west end of Bell Blvd.
- **Toronto** – Freedom Convoy Solidarity Slow Roll – Jurassic Park at Scotiabank Arena (1130 hours). This event coincides with other local actions and could affect traffic on the Lakeshore, Gardiner Expressway, Don Valley Parkway, and other main roadways in surrounding areas. The Toronto Police Service is engaged.
- **Alberta** – Unknown number of trucks in Alberta are expected to join the convoy.

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- No identified events in Ontario.

Authors:	Trish Ingalls, Intelligence Analyst	Catherine Palermo, Intelligence Analyst
Approved:	Brent Elbers, D/S/Sergeant	B. ELBERS
Date:	23 January 2022	

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